What is claimed is:

1   1.   An external storage device connectable to a host computer,

2   comprising:

3   a non-volatile semiconductor memory;

4   a part for connecting to the host computer; and

5   a part for controlling the non-volatile semiconductor

6   memory,

7   the non-volatile semiconductor memory including plural

8   areas to be read, written or erased by the host computer through

9   plural different commands.

1   2.   An external storage device according to claim 1, further

2   comprising information indicative of the plural areas of the

3   non-volatile semiconductor memory,

4   the external storage device dynamically changing the

5   plural areas of the non-volatile semiconductor memory on the

6   basis of an instruction of the host computer by a part which

7   rewrites the information indicative of the plural areas of the

8   non-volatile semiconductor memory.

1   3.   An external storage device connectable to a host computer,

2   comprising:

3   a non-volatile semiconductor memory;

4   a part for connecting to the host computer; and

5   a part for controlling the non-volatile semiconductor

6   memory,

7   the non-volatile semiconductor memory including plural

8   areas in which a data area is made of a protected data area and

9   a non-protected data area,

10   when the host computer is to access the protected data

11   area, the external storage device performing authentication

12   through an authentication procedure for accessing to the

13   protected data area.

1   4.   An external storage device connectable to a host computer,

2   comprising:

3   a non-volatile semiconductor memory;

4   a part for connecting to the host computer; and

5   a part for controlling the non-volatile semiconductor

6   memory,

7   the non-volatile semiconductor memory including an area

8   which stores data of the host computer and an area which stores

9   information on the external storage device,

10   the area of the non-volatile semiconductor memory which

11   stores the data of the host computer being made of a protected

12   data area and a non-protected data area,

13   the area of the non-volatile semiconductor memory which

14   stores the information on the external storage device stores

15   location information on the protected data area,

16   the external storage device dynamically changing the

17 protected data area of the non-volatile semiconductor memory

18 on the basis of an instruction of the host computer by a part

19 which rewrites the location information on the protected data

20 area of the non-volatile semiconductor memory,

21   when the host computer is to access the protected data

22 area, the external storage device performing authentication

23 through an authentication procedure for accessing to the

24 protected data area.

1   5.   An external storage device connectable to a host computer,

2 comprising:

3   a non-volatile semiconductor memory;

4   a connecting part for connecting to the host computer;

5 and

6   a controlling part for controlling the non-volatile

7 semiconductor memory,

8   the non-volatile semiconductor memory being divided into

9 plural areas,

10   a part, which is provided in the connecting part and

11 recognizes the kind of host computer during activation,

12 performing access control on the plural areas of the non-

13 volatile semiconductor memory according to the kind of host

14 computer.